

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4544
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

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JOINT STATE/AID MESSAGE

NAIROBI FOR REDSO/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECON, EAID, RW
SUBJECT: GOR/DONOR ROUND TABLE: THE FIVE YEAR PLAN

1. SUMMARY: GOR DISCUSSIONS DONOR ROUND TABLE FEB. 17 WILL
CENTER RECENTLY RELEASED 5-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN 1977-81.
PLAN REFLECTS INCREASING CONCERN AT PROVIDING BASIC NECES-
SITIES OF FOOD AND WORK TO RAPIDLY GROWING SUBSISTENCE
LEVEL POPULATION ON DEPLETED FARM LAND. MAJOR ACTION AREAS ARE:

- A. IMPROVE/INTENSIFY FOOD PRODUCTION
- B. PROVIDE MORE NON-AGRICULTURAL JOBS IN RURAL SECTOR
- C. IMPROVE FOOD CROP/CONSUMER GOODS MARKETING SYSTEM
- D. UPGRADE RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE (E.G., ROADS, WATER, ELECTRICITY)
- E. IMPROVE AND UPGRADE RURAL SECTOR GOVT SERVICES
(E.G., POST-PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL TRAINING, HEALTH
CARE, FOOD STORAGE AND EXTENSION AGENTS) WHILE
INCREASING LOCAL SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

EXECUTION OF DOLS 572 MILLION PLAN HEAVILY DEPENDENT FOREIGN

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AID. SEVERAL PROJECTS IN AREAS AGRICULTURE/RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
EDUCATION WITHIN PRESENT AID GUIDELINES MERIT USG SUPPORT AT ROUND
TABLE SESSION. REDSO PARTICIPATION REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. DEVELOPMENT GOALS

FOLLOWING ANALYSIS DEVELOPMENT CONSTRAINTS WHICH INCLUDES OFFICIAL
TREATMENT FOR FIRST TIME OF IMPENDING DEMOGRAPHIC CRISIS, 69-

PAGE ABRIDGED VERSION PLANNING DOCUMENT DISCUSSES EACH SECTOR AS MEANS ACCOMPLISHING FOLLOWING MAJOR DEVELOPMENT GOALS BY 1981:

- A. PROVIDE ADEQUATE DIET TO ALL RWANDANS
- 2. BETTER USE HUMAN RESOURCES
- C. IMPROVE STANDARD OF LIVING
- D. MOVE RWANDA OUT OF LAST PLACE IN DEVELOPMENT RACE.

3. ACCOMPLISHMENT OF GOALS

DEVELOPMENT OR RURAL SECTOR HIGHLIGHTED AS BEST MEANS IMPROVE/ INTENSIFY FOOD AND CASH CROP OUTPUT, GENERATE EMPLOYEMENT AND INCREASE REVENUE. PRIORITY GIVEN TO INTENSIFICATION AND DIVERSIFICATION OF AGR PRODUCTION, TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION TOGETHER WITH MARKETING, ESPECIALLY DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE. PRIMARY ED TO BE BETTER ADAPTED TO LOCAL CONDITIONS WITH INCREASED ATTENTION TO VOCATIONAL ED INSTITUTIONS (NAT'L UNIV ALSO TO BE REORIENTED TO DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES). LOCAL ADMIN, UNITS (144 IN COUNTRY) TO BE STRENGTHENED TO BETTER DIRECT AGR PROGRAMS AND PROVIDE RANGE OF SERVICES, E.GEM, HEALTH, NUTRITION. CAPITAL-INTENSIVE ACTIVITIES TO BE SCRUTINIZED CAREFULLY AND LIMITED IN VIEW OF RWANDA'S AVAILABLE HUMAN RESOURCES.

ACCORDING TO PLAN RURAL DEV PROJECTS MUST:

- A. LEAD TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND INVOLVE LOCAL POPULACE IN AGR RELATED ACTIVITIES, PROMOTION OF RURAL ARTINSANRY AND CREATION OR IMPROVEMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE RELATED TO AGR, RURAL HEALTH, EDUCATION, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.
 - B. INCLUDE EFFICIENT, SIMPLE AND USEFUL TRAINING, E.G., FOR EXTENSION AGENTS, RURAL YOUTH, WOMEN.
- OTHER SECTORS GEARED STIMULATION FOOD PRODUCTION/EMPLOYMENT AND CALL FOR CREATION OF NEW INDUSTRIES WITH PUBLIC SECTOR ASSISTANCE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARASTATAL ORGANIZATIONS TO EASE MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS, STREAM-LINING FOOD CROP MARKETING ORGANIZATION OPROVIA (ALREADY UNDER WAY), EXTENSION MARKETING COOPS, IMPROVEMENT GOR SUPPORT RURAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH ORGANIZATIONAL REFORM AND GREATER INVESTMENT PUBLIC UTILITIES.

4. PLAN FINANCING

IMPLEMENTATION HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN AID. FIVE-YEAR BUDGET OF RWF 52.6 BILLION (APPX DOLS 572 MILLION) CALLS FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FOR 72.4 PERCENT OF TOTAL. PRIVATE SECTOR TO FURNISH 22.6 PERCENT, WITH GOR BUDGET TAKING UP REMAINING 5 PERCENT. GOR TO UNDERTAKE/INSTITUTE NEW FISCAL POLICIES INCLUDING BALANCED BUDGET AND IMPROVED DEBT MANAGEMENT. GOR ALSO HOPES IMPROVE CLIMATE FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND RWANDAN CAPABILITY DEAL WITH FOREIGN DONOR ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH BETTER PROJECT PERPARATION, GREATER ATTENTION DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES, AND MORE CONCERN FOR IMPLEMENTATION TECHNIQUES.

5. EMBASSY/AID COMMENT: WHILE PLAN COVERS WATERFRONT, IT PROVIDES

USEFUL GOR PERCEPTIONS OF RWANDA'S PROBLEMS AND IS PRESENTED IN MANNER WHICH FORCES ATTENTION ON CERTAIN KEY SECTORS CRUCIAL TO COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT. FURTHER, IT PROVIDES GENERAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK; HOWEVER, THIS BUT FIRST STEP TO PROCESS LEADING TOWARD GREATER GOR CAPACITY TO FORMULATE AND MANAGE OPTIMAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

A. FOOD PRODUCTION - WITH ITS LOW PER CAPITA INCOME AND OVERWHELMINGLY SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY, CORE OF PLAN STRATEGY IS FOOD PRODUCTION. PRESSURES ON LAND AND CULTIVATION PRACTICES WHICH DEGRADE SOIL AND LEAD TO EROSION MAKE INTENSIFICATION OF AGR PRODUCTION CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN STRATEGY. WE BELIEVE THIS TO BE SENSIBLE, PERHAPS ONLY, APPROACH GOR CAN TAKE TOGETHER WITH ATTENTION TO DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEM.

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B. DEMOGRAPHY - CONCERN FOR PUPULACE AND SOCIAL IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS RUN THROUGHOUT PLAN. WHILE SECTIONS RE DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION ARE CONTROVERSIAL, IT IS APPARENT GOR RECOGNIZES THIS PROBLEM CAN NO LONGER BE AVOIDED IF EXHAUSTION OF LAND AND REGULAR CYCLES OF FAMINE TO BE AVOIDED.

C. LOCAL GOVT- GOR EMBARKING ON AMBITIOUS PROGRAM OF STRENGTHENING 144 LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS AS PRIME ENGINE OF COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT AND INTENDS INCREASE THEIR RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES ACCORDINGLY. THREAD OF DECENTRALIZATION RUNS THROUGHOUT PLAN AND, WHILE POPULAR AND PERHAPS NECESSARY WITHIN RWANDAN CONTEXT, IT POSES SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL, PLANNING, PROGRAMMATIC, LOGISTIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES FOR EVER INCREASING LIST OF INTERNATIONAL DONORS. PLAN MAKES PASSING REFERENCE TO THIS PROBLEM, BUT DOES NOT TAKE IT ADEQUATELY INTO ACCOUNT.

D. FINANCING - WHETHER MASSIVE EXTERNAL FINANCING PROJECTED BY
PLAY WILL BE PROVIDED REMAINS PROBLEMATIC. CURRENT ANNUAL FOREIGN
AID LEVELS RUN AT ABOUT DOLS 50 MILLION. AS ONE OF INEER SIX OF
WORLD'S POOREST, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT FUNDING AT TWICE THIS
AMOUNT MIGHT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO GOR. PROBLEMS (ALREADY SIGNIFICANT)
OF ABSORPTION AND MANAGEMENT WILL, HOWEVER, BE ENORMOUS.

6. EMBASSY/AID RECOMMENDATIONS:

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A. IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT USG SHOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT FIVE-YEAR
PLAN BECAUSE OF ITS FOCUS ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD PRODUCTION
AND SELF-HELP ASPECTS OF PARTICIPATION OF RWANDAN POPULACE
ESPECIALLY IN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND
NUTRITION, NON-FORMAL AND AGR-ORIENTED EDUCATION, RURAL HEALTH
AND FAMILY PLANNING DELIVERY SYSTEMS, RURAL AGRIBUSINESS, ETC.

B. AT THIS TIME, BECAUSE OF USG HISTORICAL ROLE AS SMALL DONOR
AND MAGNITUDE OF OTHER DONOR PROGRAMS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE
SELECTIVE IN OUR ATTEMPTS TO ADDRESS FIVE-YEAR PLAN. CONCENTRATION
OF USG RESOURCES AND THEIR MUTUAL REINFORCEMENT IN SELECTED AREAS
CAN SERVE USEFUL, EVEN CRUCIAL, FUNCTION VIS -A-VIS RWANDAN
DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES. FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN WHERE
A.I.D.'S FOOD STORAGE AND MARKETING PROJECT (696-0100), AIMED AT
LONG-TERM PRICE AND COMMODITY STABILIZATION, HAS ALSO SHOWN ITS
WORTH IN PRESENT EMERGENCY SITUATION EMANATING FROM POOR HARVEST.
DONOR COMMUNITY AND PRES HABYARIMANA HAVE POINTED TO THIS PROJECT
AS TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY NECESSARY TO LONG-TERM SOLUTION
OF RWANDAN PROBLEMS. FEB. 17-19 DONOR/GOR ROUND TABLE WILL AFFORD
OPPORTUNITY UNDERSCORE NEED FOR SUCH MEASURES, WHICH ARE ALREADY
STRESSED IN PLAN, AS WELL AS PUNCTUATE NEED TO COORDINATE AND
INTEGRATE VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FSM WHICH ARE
USEFUL IN AND OF THEMSELVES BUT CAN BE MADE EVEN MORE SO WHEN
LINKED WITH OTHERS.

C. TO EMPHASIZE USG SUPPORT OF PLAN, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF FOOD
PRODUCTION, NUTRITION, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AS
THEY ALL RELATE TO DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL SECTOR, EMBASSY/AID
PROPOSE OFFER MORE THAN GENERAL ENCOURAGEMENT. WHAT WE HAVE IN
MIND IS NOT TO FORCE A POSITION OR POINT OF VIEW, BUT TO BE
PREPARED TO EXPRESS GENERAL COURSE OF ACTION IN ADDITION THAT
CITED SUBPARAS A AND B:

- (1) INDICATION OF PLANS TO EXPAND EXISTING FOOD STORAGE AND
MAREKTING PROJECT
- (2) INDICATION, PURSUANT TO RECENT REDSO PLANNING AND DESIGN
CONFERENCE, OF PRESENT CONSIDERATION OF A.I.D. ASSISTANCE
IN AREAS OF LOCAL STORAGE AND FOOD PROTECTION
- (3) SIMILAR DISCLOSURE OF CONSIDERATION OF ASSISTANCE TO NON-

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FORMAL AND SECONDARY LEVELS OF RURAL-BASED AND FOCUSED EDUCATION

(4) INDICATION OF WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER OTHER ACTIVITIES FALLING UNDER RURAL DEVELOPMENT RUBRIC, E.G., NUTRITION, RURAL HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND FAMILY PLANNING ACTIVITIES.

7. REQUEST REACTION/CONCURRENCE TO PARA 6 PRIOR FEB. 17 START OF DONOR/GOR ROUND TABLE. PER STATE 026267 AND 027102 AND OUR EARLIER SUGGESTION, REQUEST ATTENDANCE RUDSO DIRECTOR, LOUIS COHEN, AT ROUND TABLE.

8. ADDITIONAL DETAILS RE AGENDA AND ROUND TABLE PROCEDURES, WHEN KNOWN, TO BE SUBJECT OF SEPTEL.

9. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.
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Message Attributes

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